



**TRI-CORE
ENGINEERING**

EXHIBIT 6

DATE Jan 15, 09

HB 11

January 7, 2009

Mr. Jim Edgcomb
Treasure State Endowment Program
Montana Department of Commerce
PO Box 200523
Helena, MT 59620-0523

**RE: *Flathead County Water District #8
TSEP Ranking Hearing***

Dear Jim,

Thanks to you and your staff for the extraordinary task performed of ranking the applicants for funding within the current TSEP funding cycle. We have received your final engineering review report form and hearing schedule. In the interest of time and safety, the Flathead County Water District #8 Board of Directors has requested that the following be prepared in lieu of attendance at the scheduled hearing.

We understand that funds are limited. However, the District and its residence find themselves in great need. Any amount of funding would be put to beneficial use for the health and safety of the users of the system. As a request, we would submit that funding be made available to more of the applicants by providing less than the requested amount – for example, on a linear disbursement or providing half the requested amount.

It is also a concern that past actions or inaction of District Boards is weighed so heavily. In the case of the Flathead County Water District #8, the current board is extremely proactive and is taking steps to ensure the protection of the health and safety of their users. The current board members are vigilant in enforcing measures such as watering restrictions to conserve their natural resources. At the same time, the board is acutely aware of the need to enlist cost effective practices to maintain low user rates so the service is affordable to all the users.

As recently as today problems with the water system plague the Board Members. The District Secretary and Board Chairman have received numerous phone calls all morning complaining about the lack of water. A power outage due to poor weather has resulted in loss of water service to the users of the District. Something must be done.

Without the aid of funding sources, such as the Treasure State Endowment Program, operation and maintenance costs will drive the cost of providing water to levels that may not be affordable to all users in the District. May the legislature continue to fund and even increase funding to such programs.

The District will continue to pursue funding so that this project can move ahead and is interested in any funding that may become available through TSEP in the immediate future.

Again, thank you for your assistance in this endeavor.

Respectfully Submitted,



William Boger, P.E.
Tri-Core Engineering

Cc: Jacquie Cuffe, President
Flathead County Water District #8

